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EXCISE

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Tripoli 2101 9-1-69

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, AID 28, CCO 00, FBO 01, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NIC 01, NSC 10, O 02, OC 06, OPR 02, P 03, PER 02, RSC 01, PRS 01, SCA 01
SS 20, SY 03, SCS 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00,
USIE 00, PC 04, IO 13, UCF 05, RSR 01, /160 W

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O P 011505Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4573
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
CINCUSAFE
CINCEUR
COMSIXTHF
I
AMEMBASSY BAIDA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY W LC DATE 2 JUL 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 2101

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM OIC BENGHAZI

QUOTE

BENGHAZI STATUS REPORT

1. AS OF 14:00, SEPTEMBER ONE, ARMY APPEARS IN CONTROL IN BENGHAZI. THE ONLY TRAFFIC MOVING IS MILITARY VEHICLES AND ARMY IS STILL PARTOLLING STREETS IN HELMETS AND FIXED BAYONETS. SPORADIC FIRING CONTINUING BUT IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS IS AGAINST OPPOSITION OR SIMPLY TRIGGER HAPPINESS OF YOUNG SOLDIERS NOW PARTOLLING STREETS.

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[redacted] REPORTED TO LT COL MILLS THAT MEMBER OF BRITISH MILITARY MISSION, MAJOR HARDCASTLE, WAS STOPPED WHILE PROCEEDING TO BENINER AIRPORT IN UK TRUCK. [redacted] B1EB
[redacted] HARDCASTLEAND HIS DRIVER WERE RUDELY HANDLED BY LIBYAN SOLDIERS WHO MADE INSULTING REMARKS ABOUT BOTH U.S. AND U.K. HARDCASTLE WAS ALLOWED TO RETURN TO BENGHAZI BUT TRUCK HAS BEEN IMPOUNDED.

3. SINCE KELLY, RICH AND I WERE PERMITTED TO ENTER EMBASSY OFFICE AT 10:30, WE HAVE BEEN IGNORED. WE CAN COMMUNICATE WITH MAAG AND SOME SUBURBAN LOCATIONS VIA E&E RADIO BUT TELEPHONE NOT WORKING. I DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS ANY IMMINENT DANGER TO AMERICAN LIVES BUT IN VIEW SITUATION DISCRIBED ABOVE, BELIEVE I SHOULD SEEK TO MEET WITH WHOEVER IN CHARGE HERE AND SEEK REASSURANCE THAT EMBASSY OFFICE AND AMERICAN CITIZENS IN AREA WILL BE PROTECTED. PENDING RECIEPT SUCH ASSURANCE AND INDICATIONS ARMY CONTROL IS FIRM, RICH WILL REMAIN IN EMBASSY OFFICE TO HANDLE COMMUNICATIONS AND DISTRUCTION IF NECESSARY.
BLAKE
UNQUOTE
BLAKE

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